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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Complete if Known

<i>Application Number</i>	09/578,998
<i>Filing Date</i>	May 25, 2000
<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Kori Inoue
<i>Art Unit</i>	2881
<i>Examiner Name</i>	Gurzo, Paul M.
<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	10720-14

Sheet	1	of	1
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[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		DE 42 03 588 A1	08-20- 1992	Inoue et al.		
		DE 692 04 000 T2	03-17- 1993	Butler et al.		
		DE 43 17 867 A1	12-01- 1994	Bornemann		

Date Considered

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

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(Use as many sheets as necessary)

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

**Examiner
Signature**

Date Considered

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